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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/531,622

04/14/2005

David S. Foell

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POLYONE CORPORATION
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EXAMINER

SAFAVI, MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3637

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DELIVERY MODE

06/02/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/531,622	Applicant(s) FOELL ET AL.	
	Examiner M. Safavi	Art Unit 3637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2,3,5,7 and 9-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,6 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> |

Continuation of Attachment(s) 6). Other: Attachment of Fig. 16 of Johnson '262 and Fig. 7 of Piccone '648..

Below find an Office action supplemental to the Office action of May 14, 2008.
The shortened statutory period for response is set to expire three months from the date of this letter.

Claims 10 and 11 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on November 21, 2007.

Applicant's election with traverse of the species of panel "having one straight surface w/male portions having first projections parallel to each other and to the wall and second projections perpendicular to each other" in the reply filed on November 21, 2007 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that "the International Preliminary Examination Report did not find lack of Unity of Invention with respect to the various embodiments of the article claims, nor did the Office with respect to the Office action mailed on January 18, 2007". This is not found persuasive because as per 37 CFR § 1.499,

If the examiner finds that a national stage application lacks unity of invention under § 1.475, the examiner may in an Office action require the applicant in the response to that action to elect the invention to which the claims shall be restricted. Such requirement may be made before any

action on the merits but may be made at any time before the final action at the discretion of the examiner.

Further, Applicant's response of April 06, 2007 presents amendments to the claims warranting a restriction between inventions as well as between species of the invention.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 12 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species of the invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on November 21, 2007.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the "panel...[having] one substantially straight or flat surface...[w/male portions having] first projections...parallel to the wall panel and each other, and...the second projections...extend...perpendicular to each other", (**claim 4**), must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure

is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 4, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The specification does not appear clear and complete as to an "insert panel" formed as a "panel...[having] one substantially straight or flat surface...[w/male portions having] first projections...parallel to the wall panel and each other, and...the second projections...extend...perpendicular to each other".

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 4, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is not clear as to what is being defined by the language of claim 4. The specification does not appear clear and complete with respect to an “insert panel” formed as a “panel...[having] one substantially straight or flat surface...[w/male portions having] first projections...parallel to the wall panel and each other, and...the second projections...extend...perpendicular to each other”.

Claim 4, line 8, “the first projections at the ends” appears to lack antecedent basis within the claim. Are these “first projections at the ends” the same as the “first projection” of “each male engagement portion”? It is therefore, it is not clear as to what is being defined by “the first projections at the ends”. Line 10, “the second projections at the ends” appears to lack antecedent basis within the claim. Are each of these “second projections at the ends” the same as the “second projection” of “each male engagement portion”? It is therefore, it is not clear as to what is being defined by “the first projections at the ends”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson '262. Johnson discloses, Fig. 16, (see also attached annotated Fig. 16 below), an insert panel 150, wherein the insert panel has one substantially straight or flat surface and wherein the male engagement portions (surrounding 58, 58') at each end extend from a same side of the wall panel, (those engagement portions that surround 58, 58' on the same side of the panel), wherein each male engagement portion has a first projection (A) and an integral second projection (B), wherein the first projections at the ends extend substantially parallel to the wall panel and each other, and wherein the second projections at the ends extend substantially perpendicular to each other.

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Piccone '648. Piccone discloses, Fig. 7, (see also attached annotated

Fig. 7 below), an insert panel 94, wherein the insert panel has one substantially straight or flat surface 96 and wherein the male engagement portions 104, 102 at each end extend from a same side of the wall panel, wherein each male engagement portion has a first projection (A) and an integral second projection (B), wherein the first projections at the ends extend substantially parallel to the wall panel and each other, and wherein the second projections at the ends extend substantially perpendicular to each other.

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lanc '669. Lanc discloses, Fig. 1, (see also attached annotated Fig. 1 below), an insert panel 10, wherein the insert panel has one substantially straight or flat surface and wherein the male engagement portions at each end extend from a same side of the wall panel, wherein each male engagement portion has a first projection (A) and an integral second projection (B), wherein the first projections at the ends extend substantially parallel to the wall panel and each other, and wherein the second projections at the ends extend substantially perpendicular to each other.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4, 6, and 8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

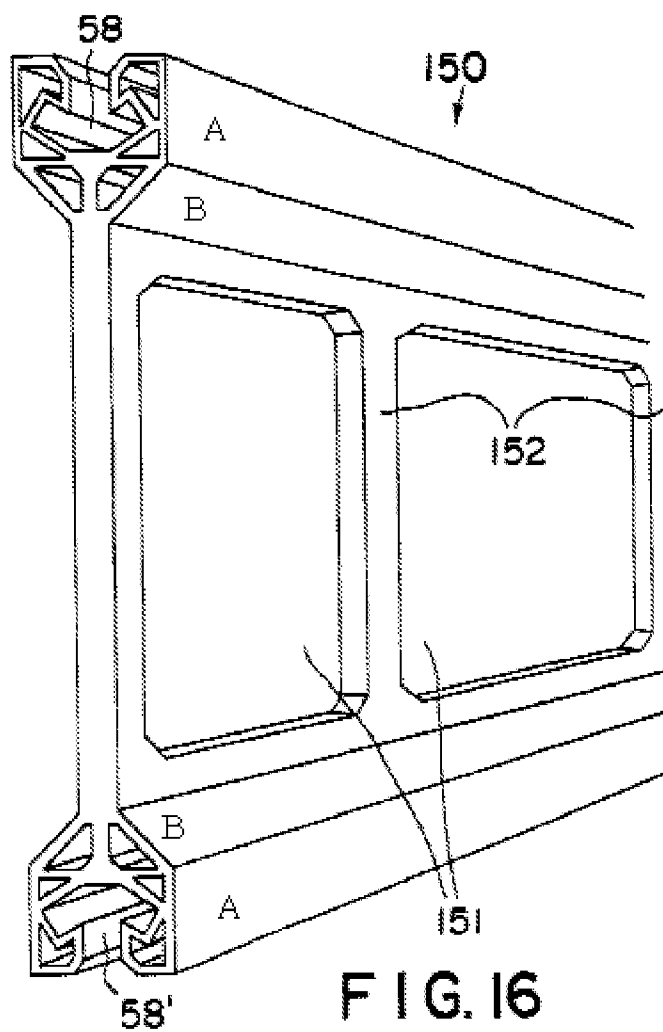
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Safavi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7046. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (571) 272-6867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

/M. Safavi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3637
M. Safavi
May 06, 2008

Art Unit: 3637

Attachment: Fig. 16 of Johnson '262



Art Unit: 3637

Attachment: Fig. 7 of Piccone '648



FIG. 7

Attachment: Fig. 1 of Lanc '669

